

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2003**

The City of Leesburg Commission held a special meeting Monday, September 29, 2003, in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Commissioner David Knowles  
Commissioner Bob Lovell  
Commissioner Ben Perry  
Commissioner Lewis Puckett  
Mayor David Connelly

Also present were City Manager (CM) Ron Stock, Acting City Clerk (ACC) Betty Richardson, City Attorney (CA) Fred Morrison, and others.

Mayor Connelly gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**READOPTED ORDINANCE 03-78 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004 BUDGET**

CM Stock explained there was a problem with the advertising and readopting the budget today corrects a compliance issue.

Mayor Connelly requested comments from the public regarding the budget. There were none.

Acting City Clerk Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

An ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida adopting the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 budget for the City of Leesburg, Florida, and providing an effective date.

Commissioner Lovell moved to adopt the budget and Commissioner Puckett seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Lovell	Yea
Commissioner Perry	Yea
Commissioner Puckett	Yea
Commissioner Knowles	Yea
Mayor Connelly	Yea

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the ordinance.

**APPROVED LEASING THE "SERVICE MERCHANDISE BUILDING" TO FURNITURE COUNTRY FOR SIX MONTHS**

CM Stock advised Furniture Country would like to rent the Service Merchandise building for six months for \$2,500 per month. CM Stock stated the City had offers in the past for short term

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 29, 2003**

leases, but staff did not consider any of them because the roof was leaking and the cost to repair was fairly high. The City can have the roof repaired to take care of the short term for \$8,000.00.

CM Stock stated Furniture Country has agreed to honor the City commitment to "Toys for Tots" for storage. Furniture Country presented a five-item check list which the City can accommodate. If the Commission agrees, staff will prepare a lease for the next meeting which will identify the insurance requirements.

CM Stock advised staff did go back to the firms who earlier offered to rent the building. Noll's Furniture said they are not interested at this time. Conway Furniture said they are not prepared to use the building now. The six-month lease will not be a problem for them.

Mayor Connelly questioned the guarantee on the \$8,000.00 patch job and if the City would be wasting money to patch the roof when a new roof is needed.

CM Stock advised Wagner Construction quoted \$250,000.00 to put on a new roof and Wagner said the roof was not worth repairing.

CM Stock said there will not be a warranty on the repair and will only keep the area dry during the time Furniture Country is in the building. It will not eliminate the need for a new roof.

Frank Kutch, Century 21 Arrow Realty said this will be a six-month trial for Furniture Country during the peak season. They will possibly be a long-term tenant. Furniture Country will vacate within thirty days if the City receives a better offer.

Commissioner Perry moved to approve leasing the building to Furniture Country for six-months. Commissioner Puckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Perry moved to waive Roll Call and Commissioner Knowles seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

---

Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Acting City Clerk

---

*Betty M. Richardson*  
Recorder

MINUTES 030929 – Special